

Okay. I'm nervous every time. Thank you for staying, though. My name is Briana Long, and I am a student at the University of Wyoming studying chemical engineering. I came here today to share how coal affects me as a college student. I just completed my third year of college and have been able to fund my tuition and living expenses nearly independently, and I have been able to do this through scholarships and working. I have worked over the summers and during five-week Christmas breaks at Cloud Peak Energy every year since graduating from high school. Through these working opportunities, both me and my brother have been able to go to school without also needing to work during the school semesters. Cloud Peak Energy was a great place to work for me and my brother, and we made \$16 an hour allowing us to save money for school while gaining great experience. They provided this opportunity to college students last year even while losing over \$200 million. Cloud Peak was unable to hire us this semester, forcing me to look for work outside of Wyoming and to find a job while I'm at school next fall. Finding a job in Laramie, where I go to school, has also been increasingly difficult due to a \$35 million budget cut to my university in response to deepening state revenue shortfalls. My brother went from earning \$16 an hour to now earning minimum wage in order to stay in Wyoming this summer. Lastly, I would like to add that increasing taxes on coal and therefore electricity will make electricity prices rise, creating a further burden on college students already struggling to make ends meet. Thank you.